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WEST WASHINGTON PLACE PARLOR AND Bedrooms, Rooms for gentlemen or housekeeping: gas leat rent moderate.

The Story of a Naval Officer's Widow Once a Belle in New York Society.

UP: AT CENTRAL PARK: PINE AIR, EXCEL-tent Board, nest house; private house; private table; thav, first house below \$715.1; unne but respectable te need apply. Take Madison avenue car. THE WILDEST NOVELISTS OUTDONE.

> A Sane Woman Twenty-Five Years in a Lunatic Asylum.

KIDNAPPED

The other day there was driven from the door of a lodging house in Fast Twenty-eighth street an elderly lady, for whom her relatives have twice put on mournsounder in body and brain than the majority at her age, has passed twenty-five of her fifty years in lunatic asylums. It was hearly dark, and she a compara-tive stranger in the city, alone, dazed by the recent ravings of a virage landlady, and nearly penniless. Fortunately, while she was wandering vaguely down Fourth avenue, she met a lady acquaintance, who heard her story and interested herself in procuring for her, in a respectable house, a modest hall bedroom suited to her slender means—a pension amounting to three dollars a week, the income of a small property to an equal amount, and her carnings from occasional scraps of embroidery. A logacy of a few hundred dollars, just paid over to her solicitor, has, for the present, placed her in a position of comparative

Little more than a year ago the heroine of the strange story that will be related presently arrived, in this city and engaged rooms in Lexington avenue, paid her rent three months in advance, furnished her apart-ments with the necessary furniture and such addi-tional articles de luxe as a lady requires, laid in a full stock of groceries and coal for the winter, and arranged to eke out her siender income by employing her vacant hours in embroidering. The amount thus expended was about \$500. She had occupied the apartments about six weeks when she was prostrated with an attack of dipotheria, and, taking advantage of her feeble condition, her landlady caused her to be taken to Believue Hospital, where she lingered for six She immediately returned to her former quarters, and paid the landlady a month's rent in advance. On repairing to her rooms she found them dismantled. Her furniture had been removed, and no clew upon which to ground an action for replevin could be obtained. She remon-strated and inquired, and was jostled into the street at the expiration of a couple of weeks, with the information that her constant complainings were injurious to her landlady's reputation for integrity, and could not be tolerated by one conscious of the purity of her intentions and of the unblemished rectitude of her dealings with lodgers. What use to cause the arrest of a person to whom arrest was no novelty? Her first experiment in a lodging house had cost \$700 in cash, a loss in clothing and valuables of not less than that amount, and six mouths in a pauper hospital. Dozons of such stereotyped dramas are enacted every week in lodging house districts, and magistrates are tired of listening to thom. Twice within a year the heroine of this narrative has played the losing part in the same drama. It is easy to declaim upon the swindles of landladies in Paris; but an expert reporter could parallel every hackneyed trick of the Parisian adept

ling invented by a New York purveyor of apartments.

Having heard something in the gossip of general society of the incredible vicinsitudes through which the heroine of the previous incident and of the following narrative has passed, the representative of the dence in East Twenty-fourth street, with a view to documents if such evidences existed. An introduction by the young lady who had betriended her at the terlodging house landlady, acted as an open sesame to the secret history of one of the most singular and adventhe Middle Ages contains nothing more romantic than the narrative recounted by this desolate descendant of one of the ancient patroons of Manhattan Island, while the firelight painted evanescent pictures on the and gentic lady in middle life, with such suffering in it that an old stager in listening to sad narracleansing his eyes of mistiness. It was simply and quietly told, with the resigned and placid pathos of

HANDSOME BACK PARLOR, WEST 34TH ST., FOR Recutemen, \$7; first class Board, \$12. Address ALEXthe quiet, elderly lady, rocking berself to and fro in the cosey firelight in a manner that appears to become habitual with persons who are familiar with trouble and suffering. "But since then I have passed so many weary years in insane asylums that it seems to me sometimes as if I had lived two lives, with a long blank YOUNG LADY, TEACHER OF PIANO AND SING-ling, employed Sundays in a prominent church choir, de-res Board, with use or plano; we uld prefer giving music seoms in part payment; a refined private family preferred, ddress 8., box 200 Hera.d office. between them-one of youth and wealth and tender, ness, passed long ago, and another of age and poverty and neglect. Between them lies a time when for years I was as one stunned, and lived on in a kind of night-WANTED-BOARD, BY TWO COUPLES, ONE WITH child and nurse; would like third floor through; location between 34th and 50th sts. and 3th av, and Broadway, Address, stating price, reference, &c., M. W. M., Post office box 1,321, New York.

There comes a time in every career when life is like an empty bottle, and one reviews one's personal history as something dreamed. But it seldom comes at fity, except to tives into which incident and suffer-ing have been so crowded that recollection in detail zed and indistinct. One may live on after that by force of habit, but one is really dead. Only once, as the quiet, soft-voiced lady told her story, and that when she spoke of her daughter—now Mrs. Emett Vaughan, of Macintosh Biuffs, Aia.—were her tones a little tronglous, and the mother yearning—the last thing a woman ever outlives—moistened her piacid blue eves.

yard at Portsmouth, N. H., Captain Keith was suddenly stricken down with an attack of Hong Kong lever, contracted during service in Acatic waters. It should be remarked, per perentice, that, atmosphe educated as Protestants, Captain and Mrs. Kent had both been converted to the Catholic faith. When the Captain died, leaving an imant daughter three years of age to the care of a girl wildow of nineteen, his last injunction to the latter was to withdraw from the world, take refuge in some Catholic misitarion, and have the soon to be orphaned herees to his immense fortune educated, ander her own early supervision, and have the soon to be orphaned herees to his immense fortune educated, ander her own early supervision, in the strictest tenets of the latth. As she spoke of her dead buseand the blue eyes of the quiet-defery lady became soft and instrous and her even tones unwontedly teneer and pleading, but never for a syllable lost their placed equanty of intonation.

THE FIRST ACT IN THE DRAMA OF LIFE.

And now commences one of the most extraordinary dramas ever furnished by the social annals of the United States. A drama in which the herotine passes a quarter of a century in buspitals for the insane, is twice announced to be dead to stiffe the inquiries of triends, twice kinnapped and wice hierated, once after having usen for seven years believed to be dead, and once after giptien years. Finally set free by the strong hand of a military tribunal presided over by Major General Hancock, which pronounces her perfectly same and her incarceration one of the high-handed outrages of the nineteenth century, she effects her scape to New York, where she has hitherto lived in penury going to mass at live o'clock every morning and at the same hour every afternoon, and thus passing six hours out of every tweaty-sour in religious devotion.

six hours out of every twenty-our in religious devotion.

In pursuance of Captain Keith's last injunction Mrs.
Keith remained in Baltimore under the special protection of her cousts. Archbishop Eggleston, placing her
daughter, by his savice, in a Catholic institution at
Frederick, Md., while she was preparing for the life
of a quarified num. As a preliminary, in association
with Miss Kinney and Miss Margaret Jonkins, she was
placed in supervision of St. Vincent's Asylum for Orplan Boys, in Front street, Baltimore, a duty which
had been perempterily reiniquished by the Black Cap
sisters. The disturbance which grew out of the refusal of the sisters to vacate the building, and the bitter controversy that resulted from their determination
to subvert the purposes of the ssylum, turn the boys
into the sisters and retain the structure as the home of
their Order in Baltimore, are proper subjects of excleslastical record that need not be enlarged upon. As a
last resort, the delled and offended prolate requested
Mrs. Keith to notify the sisters that their expulsion by
legal measures had been decided upon, when, under
protest, they sullenly retired, and the three superintenuents took possession. Unable to punish the prellate, the balfied Order wreaked their enmity on the
incasenger.

protest, they sulledly retired, and the three superintendents took possession. Unable to punish the prelate, the baffled Order wreaked their enmity on the measurer.

KIDNAFFRD AND SEVEN YEARS DEAD.

A year later, just at dusk one evening, as Mra Keith and her child were out waiking in an untrequented sucurb, they were suddenly overtaken by a carriage furiously driven. It stopped, and belore the affrighted woman had time to make an outery an elderly man leaped to the ground, seized the child and vaulted into the carriage. The mother sprang in after him. This was just what was expected. Declining to answer any questions, the emissary, one Lovegrow, conducted the mother and child to the Mount Hope Lunatic Asylum, to which he consigned Mrs. Keith as an erring daughter, whom it was necessary to restrain in her hoerry. To stifle inquiry her death was announced, and in this living tomb she resided for seven years as a pauper patient. Her jewels and other valuables, even her visiting cards, were, to carry out the deception, handed over to her relatives; but her body was denied to them, on the ground that she had died of a contagious lover, which had affected her brain and necessitated her temporary removal to the insane hospital. No doubt of this statement was entertained by her relatives. Her pension was during these seven years paid to her father, in trust for Captain Keith's child. She had been immured at Mount Hope only a few weeks when a second scene of violence was enacted. One afternoon, during visiting hours, an attendant knocked at the door of Mrs. Keith's cell and informed her that a visitor was waiting in the parlor. With suddenly resuscitated hope of establishing some means of communication with her friends, she hurried down stairs. The child ran down in advance, and entered the parlor at the rear door possibly ten seconds before Mrs. Keith, who missed her in the hall, and, overwheamed with a sudden apprehension of something womy, pashed open the door and glanced into the room just in time to obtain a passi

so communication, with hor friends, she harried our power at the real of the property and t KIDNAPPED AGAIN AND EIGHTERN YRARS DRAD.

A year of rest now intervened; the mother, like one risen from the dead, and the child, now aimost a young lady, once more reunited. Measures had been insuitated to prosecute the parties engaged in the conspiracy, when Mrs. Koith's shattered physique gave way under the reaction. As the only means of saving her life her physician advised a trip to Virginia, and Williamsburg, on the Peninsula, was selected as her place of residence. She had but put her hand in the lion's mouth again. Within six weeks after her arrival, with the connivance of Dr. James Boiton, her attending physician, she was again kidnapped and immured in the sayium in that city, where she ingerded eighteen years, reported dead, and baffled in all her attempts to commanicate with her relative; until the arrival of Major General Hancock on the Peninsula and the organization of a military government in that district enabled her to appeal to an authority that could be neither baffled nor resisted. A military commission was convened for the examination of her case, at which the General presided and of which Colonel Joseph Anderson was a member. This commission, after a thorough legal, and medical investigation, pronounced Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Keith perfectly same and compos mentis and her incarceration one of the high-handed outrages of the ninetenth century. On various pretexts, however, she was still detained month after month at the institution, until the mennood removal of the officials connected with it rendered Hancock, once more notified that a woman mourned as dead for eighteen years, was still living; her brother, R. Selby Sanxay, responded to the letter, and Mrs. Keith was removed to the residence of her sister, Mrs. Emily Batte, of Petersburg, Ya., who received her as one risen from the dead. Here she was again rounited to her long loss diaghter, a maturely beautiful young woman, plunged in deep zorrow for the dead of the regales of the military, who had meanwhile removed to Virginia and become the

mest Vaugina, of Manoitosh Biolis, Ania.—were her tones a little tromalous, and the mother yearning—the tones a little tromalous, and the mother yearning—the has thing a woman ever coultwes—mostened her pincis thing a woman ever coultwes—mostened her pincis the property because the property because the property because the mother parenthetically; and then a she west on totely in the wails of the oid Betteron massion, on the Georgetown road, near Washington, and of the prayer book of queed anno, in possession of Mrs. Starth which is magnifeon; while very coveriet, also before the property of the state of the stage, interrupts of Great Britain in the centre of the sied, intermixed with marvellous storation of the sied of the

RAPID TRANSIT.

THE APPOINTMENT OF BAPID TRANSIT COMMIS-SIGNERS TO CONDEMN LANDS ON SOUTH FIFTH AVENUE.

Under the statute authorizing railway companies to have lands needed by them assessed and condemned to their use, the Gilbert Elevated Railway Company some time since presented to the Supreme Court, General Term, a petition against E H. Anderson and wite, E. Eilery Anderson and wife, and others, owners of property on South Fifth avenue, for the condemna tion of the small spaces of the street needed for the posts of their road. The reason of this is that Laurens street, of which South Fifth arenue is a widening, is not a street taken by the city uffer the statute, but an ancient street dedicated by the adjacent owners for use as a road, but in which they retain all other rights. The matter was referred to John V. B. Lewis to take

the as a foad, but in which they retain all other rights. The matter was referred to John V. B. Lewis to take proof as to the facts, and yesterday the Court made the tellowing order:—

On the petition of the Gilbert Elevated Railway Company, verified on the 22d day of September, 1876, praying for the appointment of three disinterested and competent persons as commissioners to ascertain and appraise the compensation to be made to John L. Ireland, E. Ellery Anderson and Augusta, his wife, and Mrs. C. H. Kobbe, the owners of or parties interested in the parces of real estate described in said petition and therein designated respectively by the numbers 1, 3, 4 and 6, and proposed to be taken by the said petition of our the purpose of its incorporation, and on the answer to the said petition of said John L. Ireland, Edward H. Anderson and Josephine, his wife, and E. Ellery Anderson and Augusta, his wife, vorified October 7, 1876, ard on reading and fling the report of John V. B. Lewis, dated October 20, 1876, and the schedule A, thereto annexed, containing the evidence produced by the said respondent. Mrs. C. H. Kobbe and E. Ellery Anderson, and William M. Evurts, counsel for said respondent, freland and Anderson and Charles Francis Stone, Grosvenor P. Lowery and John K. Porter, Esqa., counsel for the said petitioner; now on motion of Porter, Lowery, Soren & Stone, attorneys for the read Gilbert Elevated Railway Company, it is ordered that Chester A. Arthur, John J. Crane and Adam S. Cameron, three disinterested and comptent freeholders, residing in the city and county of New York, we and they are hereby appointed commissioners for the purpose of ascertaining and appraising the compensation to be made to the said John L. Ireland, Edward Henry Anderson and Josephine.

And it is further ordered that the first meeting of the said commissioners be held at the office of Porter, Lowery, Soren & Stone, No. 3 Broad street, in said city, on the 28th day of February, 1877, at twelve o'clock M., and that the Datty Register and

The largest parcel of city real estate that has been effered to purchasers in the Exchange for some months past was disposed of yesterday, Anthony J. Bleecker being the auctioneer. It constituted the realty of the estate of William Browning, deceased, and was sold by order of the Supreme Court, in partition.

The following is a list of the property and the prices obtained:-

Broadway & sorter of 7th st., 10 %250; Junine 16sy molds and husband to Agnes McCauley.

Cornelius Desmond to Julius De Courdy.

18,000
187th st., n. a, 500 ft., of public drive and Hindson River; Henry S. Deshon and wife to Joseph P. Hale.

184ch. s., 200.6 ft. w. of 1st av., 37,9x100.5; Hermann Frohm and wife to Thomas J. McKee. 21,000
Hindson st., c. corner of Bleecker, 10 &x100; Henry Kearney (executory) to Peter M. Wilson. 12,800
Holdson st., c. corner of Bleecker, 10 &x100; Henry Kearney (executory) to Peter M. Wilson. 12,800
Hidson st., c. corner of Bleecker, 10 &x100; Henry Kearney (executory) to Peter M. Wilson. 12,800
Holdson st., c. corner of Bleecker, 10 &x100; Henry Kearney (executory) to Peter M. Wilson. 12,800
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Holdson st., c. corner of Bleecker, 10 &x100; Henry Kearney (executory) to Peter M. Wilson. 12,800
Holdson st., c. corner of Mary A. Peek. Nom. 1103; Hyman and wife to Mary A. Peek. Nom. Nom. 1103; Hyman E. Hyams to Louis Greenhut to Blens Waverley place (No. 108); also, Division st. (No. 115); Eyman E. Hyams to Louis Greenhut to Blens Waverley place (No. 108); also, Division st. (No. 115); Hyman E. Hyams to Louis Greenhut. Nom. Nom. Sulfok st., w. a, between Rivington and Stauton st., 25x100; Geo. steckler and wife to Edward Michel. 12,000
Hith av., c. s., 67; I ft. n. of 42d st., 16.8x80.8; F. W. Louw, (referee); to Oaroline Wall. 12,000
Hith av., c. s., and Buttornut st. (23d ward); E. D. Gale, (referee), to Ar. N. Morris. 2,100
Gerard av., c. s., and Buttornut st. (23d ward); E. D. Gale, (referee), to Ar. N. Morris. 2,100
West 42d st.; 5 years. 900
Goyle, Elleu E. and husband, to Morris. 900
West 42d st.; 5 years. 900
Goyle, Elleu E. and husband, to Mary Logan, No. 50
West 42d st.; 5 years. 900
Goyle, Elleu E. and husband, to Mary Logan, No. 50
West 42d st.; 6 years. 900
Goyle, Elleu E. and husband, to Mary Logan, No. 50
Husband, to Mary Gressuan, n. s. of East broadway; 1 year
Gress, Janc

FATAL COASTING ACCIDENT.

Philip Venino, a fifteen-year-old youth of Orange Valley, left home on Wednesday evening to enjoy consting with other boys on the Chestnut avonue grada. Through inexperiness in attering he dashed against a post and was instantly killed.

DIGGING BY MOONLIGHT.

AN EPISODE FROM LIPE ON STATEN ISLAND EXCAVATING FOR TREASURE AT HUGUENOT HEIGHTS-A SCENE FROM MELODRAMA. From New York to Staten Island, short as the

ney is, is like passing from one world to another, in-habited by people bristling with angles and eccentrickies, and one thing that particularly heightens the illusion is that the transition is effected by water—a broad and lossing Styx that lies between. Perhaps, too, the picturesque aspect of Governor's Island and of low lying Bedloc, by the way, may have some influence any tales of buried treasure that may happen to turn up, and to join any party digging for gold, coin or existence of such things in any specified locality. Possibly the low lying, sea washed landscape that viewed from the ferryboat, seems to rest like a nar row and motionless cloud on the restless surface of the bay, may have exercised a poculiar fascination over the mind of Gaptain Kidd, who is reported to have buried his treasures at this point and that point by way, perhaps, of playing a grim practical joke os future generations. The locality where these tradi-tions are most abundant lies about Princess Bay, which was one of Kidd's most frequented lurking places. From Clifton to Tottenville by rail is a journey of fifteen miles, with country seats, lager beer saloons, villages, hotel signs, quack placards and atunted oak trees waltzing across the field of vision. At Tottenville, the very centre of Kidd literature, young men and old tell tales of buried treasures and of experiences in digging for them, which must be discounted seventy In digging for them, which must be discounted seventy, five per cent for deliberate invention, and at least fit teen per cent for uncertainty to commonce with. The blue hills of New Jersey lie just across the strait, and they are ground rife with revolutionary legend. Three miles this way from Tottenville a sleepy little villags styled fluguenot lies basking in the sunshine, agains a background of hills—the Huguenot Heights of Revo combed with excavations for buried treasures, and it may be said, perhaps, that here, within a district of jess than titly singular night scenes have been wit treasures are reputed to have been buried by Captain Kidd, others by wealthy Jerseymen during the Rovo-

nessed within the last filty years. Some of these treasures are reputed to have been buried by Captain Kidd, others by wealthy Jorseymen during the Revolutionary war, others by predatory bands of Jorsey bandstit, who roubed friend and foe indiscriminately, and often found it necessary to conceal the evidence of their transactions.

A report having been circulated that a recess the tempt had been made to exhaune a quantity of gold, silverware and coins, supposed to have been buried during the Revolutionary War, the representative of the Heraald aligned from the train at Huguenot yesterialy morning, and proceeded to make a thorough investigation. On the heights benind the village formerly stood an old house, jamiliar in that section all Harry Burton's. It has recently been replaced with a modern structure. When the new proprietor of the premises came to tear down the old building several pots of coin were found securely hidden in the collar wall. The legend is that during the Revolutionary struggle the old house was the resort of an act ve and deeperate organization of the Jersey bandits, and that they frequently disposed of their booty on and about Huguenot Heights. On the Wolfe farm, quarter of a mile from the village, a dozen excavations may be cousted. Most of them are from ten to lifteen years old, and their walls have been covered, more or less, from the levelling action of rain, snow, thaw and frost. An old gentleman, resident in the village, states that he knows of thirty-live different excavations for treasure within two miles and a half of Huguenot, but that very few of them have taken place during the last ten years. A sensation was recently created in the neighborhood by some buried coins which were ploughed up by a farmer near Rossville. On examination these coins proved to be Spanish, and reinforced the waning faith of the old mhabitants of Huguenot y parties supplicious of each other, each working in the interest obsented with gold and diamonds are lying under their very leet, if they could only fi

that part of the State was the battle ground of the two armies. Numerous attempts have been made to discover this treasure, the existence of which rests on New Jersey (not on Staten Island) tradition. The wealthy royalist went to England while the war was improgress, intending to Jern Mer the rebedion had been put down and rear 37 possession of his estate. As mother earth was the best sole deposit company that existed in those days, accompanied by a single faithful servitor, the ancient patroon rowed across to the Staten Island snore one hight and burned a large box, containing the family piace and a considerable amount in coin. There are no means of identifying the spot, or even of verifying the fact, except traditions banded down in the family of this servitor, and altogether dependent on his veracity.

The Mystratious biggers.

The Staten Islander, having passed his life amid local legends and oyster beds, is not, however, intected with the prevalent sceptishm of the nineteenth century. He can still smoke the vilest cigars obtainable, without the slightest ice that they are not imported, and still enjoys his experiences in digging by moonlight for Kidd's mythical loxes, by way, perhaps, of enhancing the value of real extate.

The three fresh excavations look commonpinee enough, but at each of them a weird midnight scene was enacted. Local goesip states that they were the wreck of a party consisting of five mysterious personages, armed with picks and spades, who landed from the Jersey shore and returned during the night, had ark lantern bathed the stooping figures in yellow radiance as they toiled on from midnight until the small hours, and warned that the sun would presently lift his round yellow from the ocean beyond them. Thrue has the scene been repeated and three have the figures stolen of into the night, like so many gnomes in a German mining legend, only the gnomes usually earry treasurs away with them, while the Jersey explorers went as empty handed as they came, each with a dusky doubt of the correct

THE ICE HARVEST.

A VAST QUANTITY STORED-THE PRICES NEXT SUMMER.

The Knickerbocker, Mutual Benefit and New York ice companies report that the ice harvest is nearly over and that by the end of next week they will have stored all that they need for the summer trade. The ice gathered, they say, is of splendid quality, from twelve to fourteen inches thick, and entirely free from snow. In the houses upon the Hudson the Knicker-bocker has stored nearly 250,000 tons, and various other companies have gathered 120,000 tons. These companies have paid \$137,000 to collect the ice, and there have been over 4,000 men and boys and 500 horses engaged in the work.

The companies have not yet decided upon the prices to be charged next summer, but the president of the principal ice company in this city stated yesterday that it would be much lower than it has been for the past three years.

TA STRANGE SCENE IN CHURCH.

[From the Rochester (N. Y.) Union, Jan. 24.] One day last week a young man living in Gene closed with the daughter of a wealthy and respected citizen, the parties for some time previous having manifested a decided effection for each other. The young couple went to Mount Morris, where they took upon themselves the solemn obligations of marriage; but their present whereabouts are, we believe, un-known The young lady's father was in Albany at the known The young lady's father was in Albany at the time on business, and somebody wrote him that he had better come home and look after his daughter. He returned immediately. On Sunday last he attended church, and here occurred a strange scene. The congregation had just concluded the singing of the first hymn when he arose in his pew, took out his watch, and addressing the clergyman exclaimed:—"There is a devil in this church, and I give her just ave minutes to live!" At the same time he drew a revo.ver and pointed it at a lady scated in a pew in front of him. That lady was the mother of the young man who had cloped with and married the other's daughter. The woman, acting under an impulse of discretion, left the church, and things settled down again to a quet state of affairs. Nothing further has been done about the matter, though the whole commernity have made it a subject of constant talk. It seems that the man who feels so deeply aggreeved at what had previously taken pince supposes that the clopement was instigated by the young man's mother,